

67. A multiple function apparatus according to claim 66, wherein said deflecting guide part serves as a part of a cover of said multiple function apparatus and covers said image forming apparatus.

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68. A multiple function apparatus according to claim 66, wherein said deflecting guide part is movable, so that said image forming apparatus can be exposed.

69. A multiple function apparatus according to claim 62, wherein said first apparatus and said second apparatus are provided in such a positional relation as to overlap each other in the vertical direction in a case where said multiple function apparatus is in use.

REMARKS

Claims 7-10, 19-25 and 34-69 are in this case and are presented for consideration.

Claims 38-46, 52, 55 and 59 have been amended to place the application in better form.

Additionally, Claims 62-69 have been added and present subject matter similar to the original claims, but in a different form.

Claims 7-10, 24-25, 38-45 and 51 have been allowed by the Office Action dated November 16, 2000.

Claims 34-36 of the present invention are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Ara et al. (USP5,889,597) in view of Yamada et al (5,559,609) in the office action dated November 16, 2000. However, Claims 34-36 of the present invention comprise two transportation paths, and a scanner which can attached removably on a base unit. This combination of features in the Applicant's invention is not taught or suggested by the references. Moreover, it would not be obvious to one skilled in the art to modify a reference to contain this combination of features that is present in the Applicant's invention. Therefore, an obviousness rejection should not be sustained. X

Conversely, the Ara reference discloses an image processing apparatus 1 and system having a scanner 8 which is attached removably to an image processing apparatus 1. The scanner 8 is attached to a front surface 2 having a paper ejecting port 7. Further the transportation path for the recording paper is used for a original document transporting path. Therefore, Ara's system is composed of only one transportation path. The present invention contains two transportation paths.

Yamada discloses a facsimile transceiver having a document feeding tray 10 and a transmitted document tray 21, and a recording sheet cassette 2. Yamada's facsimile transceiver has a U-shaped scanner path B on which a document is transported in a direction of down stream from the document feeding tray 10 to the document tray 21. A recording paper is transported on the recording feeding path A from the recording sheet cassette 2 to an image -recording tray 7. The set angle of the U-shaped scanner path B is about 45 degree at the document feeding tray 10 and the document tray 21. The set angle of the path B is about

45 degree. An image reading unit 26 is attached fixedly to the path B at the bottom of the U-shape of the set angle of 45 degree.

The Office Action rejected the present invention as being unpatentable over Ara(USP5,889,597) and Yamada(5,559,609). However, as mentioned above, the scanner of Ara is attached to the the front surface 2 having the paper ejecting port 7. Furthermore, Ara's system is composed of one transportation path, which is used the transportation path for the recording paper and original document. Accordingly, the technique of Ara is not applied to Yamada which has Ushape scanner path B and one recording paper feeding path A. Even if Ara is applied to Yamada, the configuration of transportation path of U-shaped scanner path B and a recording sheet feeding path A are different from a scanner path (document sheet transportation path) and paper transformation path of the present invention. The scanner path (document sheet transportation path) and paper transformation path of the present invention are provided long and adjacent each other, and extend substantially. Therefore, the path formation of Yamada is different at all from those of the present invention. Without a teaching or suggestion to modify or combine the references, an obviousness rejection should be overcome.

Moreover, the reading element of claims 34-36 of the present invention is attached to a substantially vertical transportation path as defined in the claims. On the other hand, the image reading unit 26 of Yamada is attached to the bottom of U-shape scanner transportation path, of which angle is about 45 degree. Each of Applicants claims 34-36 of the present invention is different from and not disclosed or taught by Yamada. Accordingly, claims 34-36

of the present invention are not realized based on Ara and Yamada by a person having ordinary skill in the art of the present invention.

Claims 19-23, 46, 48, 49, 61 comprise a scanner part which rotates.

The scanner 8 of Ara is attached removably to a front surface 2 having a paper ejecting port 7. The scanner 8 is held by using hooks 10. The scanner of the Ara reference is extremely limiting and different from the scanner (Claim 46) of the present invention because the scanner of Ara does not rotate.

The scanner part of claim 46 is defined as "said engaging portion and said scanner mounting portion holds said scanner apparatus in a manner that said scanner apparatus can be rotatable to a direction that said sheet transporting path is open." Like this, the scanner part of the present invention can be rotatable, and the sheet transporting path can be open. As the result, a paper troubled on the path such as jammed can be removed easily. Therefore, a high working efficiency is realized. But Ara does not cause this effect.

The Office Action states that "Ara, teaches that the engaging portion (hook 10) is disposed on each of the sides of the scanner 8 which engages a recess 2a disposed in correspondence with the hook 10 on the side of the outer casing 2 of the printer 1, causing the mounted printer 1 and scanner 8 to be fixed. Thus in order to attach the scanner 8 to printer, the scanner 8 has to move forward to be fixed with the printer while the sheet transporting path open." However, the scanner of Ara is held by hook 10, which rotates around axis of support 8a. But the Ara scanner 8 does not show that it can be rotatable to a direction that the sheet transporting path is open. Therefore, the Ara scanner does not teach


or anticipate the present invention. Moreover, it is not obvious that the Ara invention was made to person skill in the art to consider that the scanner 8 can be rotatable to direction that the sheet transporting oath is open. Additionally, there is no teaching or suggestion to modify the Ara scanner to be rotatable in the direction that the sheet transporting oath is open.

The Office Action states that claims 52-54, 56-60 of the Applicant's invention are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Shimizu (USP 5,663,811).

The invention of claims 52-54, 56-60 of the present invention is defined as "at least one device disposed in said base unit; and a cover of said base apparatus guiding a sheet delivered from said sheet transporting path and covering said device; wherein said cover can move so that said device is exposed."

The Office Action States on page 6, lines 8-13 that "It is noted that the cover 200 starts with one lower end where the sheet is first inserted and ends with the upper end where the sheet is discharged. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was to a person having ordinary skill in the art to consider the 200 of the base unit is for guiding a sheet delivered from the sheet transporting for transporting the original image sheet to be scanned since the two ends of the cover are also for guiding the original image sheet."

The cover 200 of Shimizu is not a cover of the base unit, but it is a cover of the scanner unit 5. The cover of claims 52-54, 56-60 of the present invention is a cover of the base unit, and it guides a sheet from the sheet transporting path. Furthermore, when the cover of the present invention is opened, devices of the base unit set inner the cover are exposed. This function allows the user to look at and investigate the parts. The device is the image forming

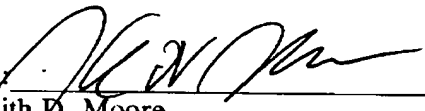


unit such as the printer unit, and the maintenance is very easy. But Shimizu does not have this feature, it covers only the reading unit 5. Now, claim 52 and 59 are amended so as to realize the effect.

The Office Action rejects claim 50 of the present invention under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a). However claim 50 is dependent claim of independent claim 24, which is allowable under the Office action. Consideration of dependent Claim 50 is requested to be allowable in view of allowed Claim 24.

Examiner reject claim 61 in the discussion of claim 52-54, 56-50. However claim 61 is independent claim 46. So it is discussed in the discussion for claim 46 as discussed above.

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